MARVEL

ULTIMATE BLACK PANTHER

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HILL | CASELLI | CURIEL

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"So, you are a magician?"
"A simple word for a many layered thing, your highness."
"Erik tells me you're impressive. And he's not a man impressed by much."
"He freed me. To help you. So I'm here to help you."
"The world around Wakanda is swirling. I have no time for pretense, Inan.
"I have men who think they are Gods imprisoned in my kingdom."
I need honesty. And clarity.
Can you provide that?

Your world is *science.* Technology. Mine is *myth* and *rumor* and challenging the basic understanding of what is *possible.*
But I can tell you what I know about vibranium.
Even if it will be bad news.
I'm listening.
I require *transparency,* your highness. I can't help you if you're not open. I need honesty too.
Understood. And given.
Ask whatever you need to ask.
Catch.
You're having *dreams,* aren't you?

Seeing things. Dreams like memories of moments you haven't lived. Images of things you can't understand.
Seeing phantoms. Hearing their voices. Compelled to act in the ways they urge.
Yes.
What do you fear, your highness?
I fear I'm losing my mind, magician.

Well, you're not. Not yet.
But if my theory is correct, you have a kingdom interwoven with ghosts of a very dangerous past.
Ghosts?

Vibranium is built into all of Wakanda, correct?

Yes. For generations, we've harnessed its power. Wakanda *is* vibranium.
That's what concerns me.

Go on.

Those two fellas who call themselves gods. Ra and Khonshu.
Do you know why they were able to harness vibranium's power? How they awaken the Earth around them? Build a temple? Pretend to be a God?

"After the duel, my people laid claim to Moon Knight's fortress. We sought answers.
"I found none."
I hear you are a genius. Perhaps more than that. But you live in a world of reason. Causality.
That is a very narrow view of existence. Pardon me for saying.
And narrow views miss what exists around them.
You have a hypothesis. You just don't want to share it.
Remember what I said about transparency. I can help you, but we have to trust each other.
If we can't do that, then I will leave.
I think vibranium is *alive*. That it has a consciousness. And a will.
And I think I'm losing my mind to it.

Honesty. I love it.
Well, you're not wrong.
I have short patience with doubt, your highness.
Fact is, your entire kingdom is at risk, built on a thing you don't understand. I don't even understand it.
Objects can remember. The most powerful objects can even capture the consciousness of people.
You ever walked into the room of a dead person and felt them there?
Same concept.
Your vibranium *remembers*. And I'm about to show you what those memories are.

EEEEEEEEE
What is that?!
I may have leaped before I looked, your highness.

We should leave.
Again with this?
I am filled with dread, Erik.
On our own, we were fine. Roaming. Bringing justice where we saw the need.
We are not made to have roots. And the soil of Wakanda is toxic.
Staying here with these people-- it will end badly for us.
I do not trust T'Challa, but I trust his purpose. He is naive. Because he was born with power.
But Wakanda has a purpose for us, Ororo.
Which is?

Not a home. A *foundation*. We can push them to share their power and protection with all of Africa.
Wakanda can be a *continent*. Not just a kingdom hiding behind its walls.
Moon Knight showed T'Challa that. And he will listen to us.
Ororo.
What do you want most in the world?
To protect those who cannot protect themselves.
And here we have a kingdom. Alone, we are just two.
We can make these people better than they think they are.
I have a vision.
Vision?
Can you see *that*?

T'Challa! It is alive!
And it's going to try to destroy you.
I'm right here, beast.

GRR!
FWOO-KRAKK

CRASH
What is it?
The consciousness of vibranium.
What?
Move!

KSSSHHH
Urrgh...

You may be a king...
...but remember you cannot fly.

And what is that?
You have to ask Inan.
Allow me.

KRAK
KOOOM

THWAK
KZZZT
Unh!
Send him to me. NOW!

Where did you send it?
Space. Deep space.

Sister! Rally the Dora Milaje and the Vodu-Khan. I want all injured taken to care and the fires--
The fires I will handle myself.
That thing... lives inside Vibranium?
Its consciousness does. I gave it form. It got out of hand.
Your kingdom is filled with vibranium. This is beyond my ability but not beyond my knowledge.
Your highness...
...Wakanda needs an exorcism.
TO BE CONTINUED...